

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Cancel) An apparatus for dimensional control of formed building blocks, while ~~said building blocks are in a malleable state, comprising:~~
  - a) a frame having an opening therein;
  - b) a conveyor positioned within said opening and adapted to carry building blocks through said opening; and
  - c) at least one elongated, rotatable horizontal roller mounted to said frame at a desired distance above said conveyor,whereby when said building blocks are carried on said conveyor beneath said horizontal roller, said horizontal roller deforms a height of said building blocks to a dimension equal to the distance between a lowermost edge of said horizontal roller and the surface supporting said building blocks.
2. (Cancel) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising a rotary power means operatively coupled to said horizontal roller, for rotating said horizontal roller at a surface rotational speed substantially equal to a linear speed of said building blocks.
3. (Cancel) The apparatus of Claim 2, wherein said rotary power means is an electric motor.
4. (Amended) ~~The apparatus of Claim 2, further comprising a means for heating an outer surface of said horizontal roller.~~

An apparatus for dimensional control of formed building blocks, while said building blocks are in a malleable state, comprising:

  - a) a frame having an opening therein;

- b) a conveyor positioned within said opening and adapted to carry building blocks through said opening;
- c) at least one elongated, rotatable horizontal roller mounted to said frame at a desired distance above said conveyor;
- d) a rotary power means operatively coupled to said at least one horizontal roller, for rotating said at least one horizontal roller at a surface rotational speed substantially equal to a linear speed of said building blocks; and
- e) a means for heating an outer surface of said at least one horizontal roller, whereby when said building blocks are carried on said conveyor beneath said at least one horizontal roller, said at least one horizontal roller deforms a height of said building blocks to a dimension equal to the distance between a lowermost edge of said at least one horizontal roller and the surface supporting said building blocks.

- 5. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim 2 4, wherein an outer surface of said at least one horizontal roller comprises a material resistant to adhering to said building block;
- 6. (Cancel) The apparatus of Claim 3, further comprising a means for heating an outer surface of said horizontal roller.
- 7. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim 2 4, further comprising a carriage supporting said at least one horizontal roller, and a lead screw operatively coupled to said carriage and said at least one horizontal roller for adjusting the position of said at least one horizontal roller with respect to said carriage.
- 8. (Amended) An apparatus for deforming formed building blocks, while said building blocks are in a malleable state, to yield desired dimensions, comprising:

- a) a frame having an opening therein;
- b) a conveyor positioned within said opening and adapted to carry building blocks ~~through said opening; and~~
- c) at least one elongated, rotatable horizontal roller mounted on a carriage, said carriage coupled to said frame, and a lead screw operatively coupled to said carriage and said horizontal roller for adjusting the position of said horizontal roller with respect to said carriage, thereby placing said horizontal roller at a desired distance above said conveyor;
- d) a rotary power means operatively coupled to said horizontal roller, for rotating said horizontal roller at a surface rotational speed substantially equal to a linear speed of said building blocks; ~~; and~~
- e) <sup>301</sup> a means for heating an outer surface of said horizontal roller.

whereby when said building blocks are carried on said conveyor beneath said at least one horizontal roller, said at least one horizontal roller deforms a height of said building blocks to a dimension equal to the distance between a lowermost edge of said at least one horizontal roller and the surface supporting said building blocks.

- 9. (Cancel) The apparatus of Claim 8, further comprising a means for heating an outer surface of said horizontal roller.
- 10. (Cancel) A method of precise dimensional control of formed building blocks, comprising the steps of:
  - a) providing an apparatus comprising:
    - i) a frame having an opening therein;
    - ii) a conveyor positioned within said opening and adapted to carry building blocks through said opening; and

- iii) at least one elongated, rotatable horizontal roller mounted to said frame  
at a desired distance above said conveyor,

~~whereby when said building blocks are carried on said conveyor beneath said~~  
horizontal roller, said horizontal roller deforms a height of said building blocks to  
a dimension equal to the distance between a lowermost edge of said horizontal  
roller and the surface supporting said building blocks; and

- b) passing one or more building blocks while said building blocks are in a malleable  
state between said roller and said conveyor surface, whereby a vertical  
dimension of said building blocks is deformed to a desired dimension.